

1901

*** MINUTES ***

— OF THE —

Fifty-Fifth Annual Session of the
Louisiana Conference

— OF THE —

Methodist Protestant Church

WHICH CONVENED WITH THE

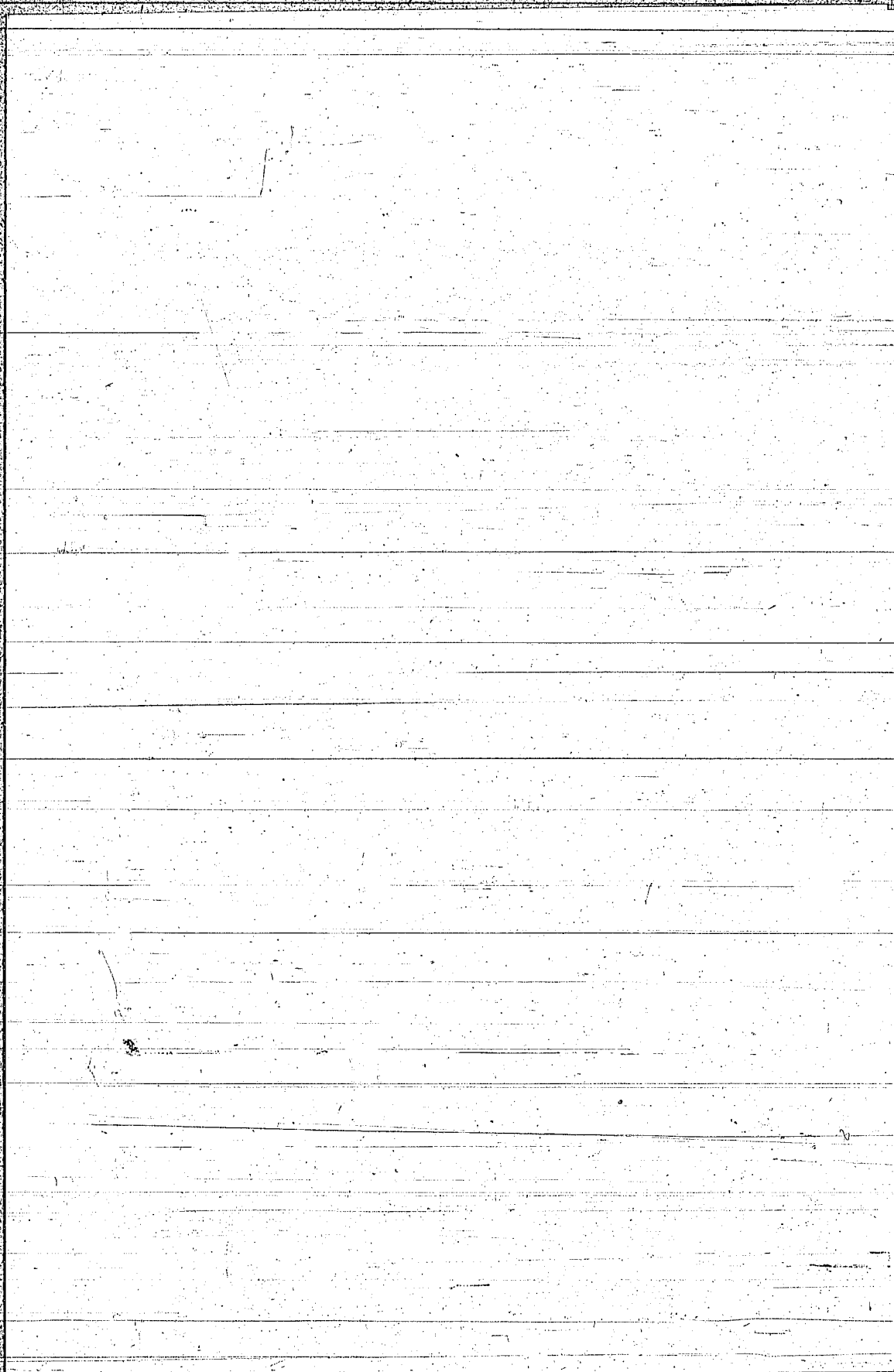
Church at Arcadia, Louisiana,
November 1st to 4th, 1901.

Together with the By-Laws.

— OFFICERS —

J. P. PATTON, President, - - Wheeling, La.
H. N. HARRISON, Secretary, New Orleans.

GUARDIAN-JOURNAL, HOMER, LA.



CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.

ARCADIA, LA., Nov. 1, 1901.

Morning Session.

The Fifty-fifth Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church convened at Arcadia, La., at 9 o'clock a. m., Nov. 1st, 1901. The proceedings were opened with devotional exercises by the President, J. M. Beard. By motion of the Conference the President appointed W. W. Lantrip, J. F. Waltman, and W. M. Platt, as a committee on credentials. The reports of brother and sister Morris for the conference year were submitted and accepted. The committee on credentials then reported the following brethren as entitled to seats as lay delegates in this conference, to wit:

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| T. F. Pardue, | Ouachita Circuit |
| T. F. Lolley, | Antioch Circuit |
| A. A. Luneau, | Locust Grove Church |
| C. N. Ates, | Strickland Circuit |
| Moses Calk, | Pollock Charge |
| Thomas Call, | " " |
| A. W. Stewart, | Rochelle Church |
| H. N. Harrison, | New Orleans, La. |
| W. H. Hearn, | Center Point Charge |
| W. R. Jones, | Center Point Charge |
| T. Durbin, | Wesley Circuit |
| T. C. Kidd, | " " |
| James Strickland, | Hick's Circuit |
| Lige Whaite, | Cross Roads Church |
| W. J. Alexander, | Jonesboro Church |
| W. G. Griggs, | Rice Circuit |
| R. E. Watson, | " " |

| | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| L. H. Swayse, | Monroe Station |
| A. T. Nelson, | Spring Lake Circuit |
| J. O. Whitten, | Caldwell Circuit |
| A. C. Burt, | Ruston, La |
| | W. M. Platt, |
| | W. W. Lantrip, |
| | J. F. Waltman, |
| | Committee. |

At this time the President of the Conference gave a verbal report of his labors and stewardship for the year. It was moved and carried that brothers Ransom M. Guy, Cyrus H. Ellis, W. J. Atwood, and Lastie Hoffpauer be received in orders, their credentials having been accepted.

The hours for sessions were then fixed by motion for 8:30 a. m.; and for 2 p. m. and 5:30 p. m. By motion the Chair appointed a committee of three—J. F. Waltman, W. M. Platt, and A. W. Stewart—to confer with a committee of three from the Arkansas Conference concerning boundaries. The two committees, however, could not agree. Brothers James Brice, J. F. Waltman, and A. W. Stewart were appointed by the Chair, on motion, as the committee on public worship.

Rev. S. A. Martin then presented his report for the year, and a letter from Rev. J. T. Smith was read making application to join the M. P. Conference. On motion the Chair appointed W. M. Platt, C. H. Ellis, and W. W. Lantrip as the committee on itinerancy and orders. Moved and carried that the committee on boundaries be the same as the committee on stationing preachers. There being no objection, W. P. Fowler, J. F. Waltman, and C. N. Ates, were appointed as committee on revision of by-laws. The Chair appointed as committee on education C. H. Ellis, R. M. Guy, Lastie Hoffpauer, Moses Calk, and A. W. Stewart. The Conference then adjourned for the 11 a. m. service.

Afternoon Session.

The Conference reopened with devotional exercises conducted by Rev. C. H. Ellis at 2 p. m. By motion the bar of the Conference was fixed at the sixth bench from front. On

motion of C. H. Ellis the Conference elected a statistical secretary and brother J. R. Gaar was chosen to fill the place. Moved and carried that visiting brethren from other churches be invited to honorary places on the floor of the Conference. The passage of preachers' characters being next in order, the following preachers were accepted and passed in character:

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| J. M. Beard, | New Orleans, La |
| J. R. Morris, | State at large |
| Bessie Morris, | " " " |
| E. O. Hearn, | Antioch Circuit |
| J. P. Patton, | Wesley Circuit |
| W. W. Lantrip, | Ouachita City Circuit |
| J. F. Waltman, | Lake Spring Circuit |
| Lastie Hoffpauer, | Pollock Circuit |
| G. J. L. Brown, | Hick's Circuit |
| J. C. Hearn, | Rice Circuit |
| J. T. Smith, | Center Point Circuit |
| C. H. Ellis, | Monroe Station |
| W. M. Platt, | Strickland Circuit |
| J. F. Hearn, | Rice Circuit |
| J. F. Carroll, | Kelby, La |
| W. P. Fowler, | Luna, La |
| I. A. Patton, | Mt. Zion, La |
| W. T. Waller, | Wesley Circuit |
| S. A. Martin, | Pineville, La |
| R. M. Guy, | Greenville, Tex |
| I. M. Griggs, | Center Point Circuit |
| D. T. Ponder, | Caldwell Circuit |
| F. M. Yarborough, | Grand Bluff, Miss |
| W. M. D. Gaar | No report |
| W. F. Fordham, | Dalley, La |
| Terry Fordham, | Hood's Mill |
| W. W. Dunn, | Sand Spur, La |
| Alfred Hallmark | |
| T. E. Bolding, | Orange, Tex |
| J. W. Neal, | |
| I. R. Strickland, | Mt. Zion, La |
| W. T. Waller, | Dodson, La |
| Wm. J. Atwood | |

J. R. Gaar,

Hudson, La

J. E. Gaar,

" "

D. Fordham was reported as having withdrawn to the M. E. C. S.

Motion to adjourn till 8:30 a. m., Nov. 2nd prevailed.

Morning Session.

NOVEMBER 2nd, 1901.

The Conference opened at 8:30 a. m. with devotional exercises conducted by Rev. L. Hoffpauer.

A communication from E. A. Hearn, surrendering his credentials, was received, and on motion his name was dropped from the Conference roll. The Chair here announced the following committees:

On Unfinished Business.—W. W. Lantrip, T. C. Kidd, J. Strickland.

On Memoirs.—J. M. Griggs, L. H. Swayse, T. F. Pardue.

On Missions.—J. E. Gaar, L. Hoffpauer, A. A. Lüneary, W. G. Griggs, C. N. Ates, Elijah White.

On Temperance.—E. O. Hearn, J. C. Hearn, W. J. Alexander, R. M. Guy.

On Finance.—C. H. Ellis, A. W. Stewart, T. H. Call, W. T. Atwood, T. Durbin, R. E. Watson.

On Books and Periodicals.—A. T. Nelson, W. Hearn, W. W. Lantrip, I. A. Patton, W. W. Waller.

The Conference then rescinded the action of the Concord Conference in the case of brother P. A. Smart, and ordered his name placed on the present Conference roll. The committee on itinerancy and orders reported the following brethren as applicants for admission to the Conference: A. T. Valery, T. C. Leckie, both from Pollock charge, and Wm. Tarver, from Strickland charge. A. T. Valery and T. C. Leckie were then received in the Conference. The name of brother Tarver was afterward withdrawn from consideration at the request of the committee on itinerancy and orders. On motion the name of J. R. Gaar was placed on the roll of the Conference. Brother John T. Smith, from Strickland charge, a Free Methodist, having been recommended to the Conference, was duly received

into membership.

At this point in the order of business—the election of officers—was reached, and the Conference elected for its President Rev. J. P. Patton, and for Secretary H. N. Harrison.

The Conference adjourned till 2 p. m.

Afternoon Session.

NOVEMBER 2nd, 1901.

By motion the Conference dispensed with reading the minutes of the morning session. A report from brother J. F. Carroll, of Caldwell Circ it, was read and received. The Conference then adjourned till 4 p. m. to give the various committees time to make their reports.

The Conference having reconvened at 4:20 p. m., the committee on itinerancy and orders reported I. A. Patton, A. T. Valery, T. C. Leckie, J. C. Hearn, J. G. L. Brown, Willie Waller, as worthy to receive licenses for the year, and to administer the sacraments. The committee recommended Rev. L. Hoffpauer, as entitled to certificate from the President of Elders' Orders. Report was adopted.

The committee on education reported and suggested the appointment of a committee of five to take suitable steps for the establishment of a high grade and clean school within the boundaries of Louisiana, and requesting this committee to report to the next annual Conference. The school at Westminster, Tex., as well as some other schools not being clear on the tobacco question, the committee recommends that this Conference take a definite stand on this question, and urge the establishment of a clean College in our State. The report was adopted, with only one vote in the negative.

The committee on finance reported and recommended as a solution of the financial question, 1, that the preachers emphasize the tithe system in their sermons; 2, that the President's salary be fixed at \$600; 3, that this Conference raise at least \$300 for home and foreign missions, and that this amount be apportioned among the several works. Report adopted.

On motion, the boundaries and stationing committee was empowered to assess these amounts to the various works, and

the various works later assumed following obligations:

| CIRCUITS | PRESIDENT | HOME & FOREIGN MISSIONS |
|-------------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| Pollock | \$65 00 | \$65 00 |
| Spring Lake | 65 00 | 65 00 |
| Strickland | 50 00 | 50 00 |
| Ouachita City | 12 50 | 12 50 |
| Antioch | 25 00 | 5 00 |
| Monroe and Ruston | 50 00 | 50 00 |
| Caldwell | 50 00 | 50 00 |
| Wesley | 40 00 | 20 00 |
| Hick's | 50 00 | 50 00 |
| Rice | 12 50 | 12 50 |
| Center Point | 30 00 | 30 00 |
| Kelly | 12 50 | 12 50 |
| Winnfield | 25 00 | 25 00 |

Conference adjourned to Monday, the 4th, at 8 30 a. m.

Morning Session.

NOVEMBER 4th, 1901.

Conference met at 9 a. m. after devotional exercises conducted by brother W. M. Platt, Rev. J. M. Beard in the chair. By a resolution presented by A. W. Stewart, J. F. Waltman, and C. H. Ellis; the Conference appointed Rev. J. M. Beard as Conference evangelist, with headquarters in New Orleans, and authorized him to establish missionary posts and enterprises, and to collect from any and all sources moneys for these purposes, these moneys to be altogether separate from the Conference assessment of \$600 for home and foreign missions.

On the recommendation of the committee on itinerancy and orders, Mrs. Mary Bartlett was received into the Conference. By motion A. C. Burt, from Ruston, was admitted as an honorary member of the Conference. Reports of committees being in order, the committee on memoirs made an appropriate notice on the death of our beloved brother, B. W. Taylor.

The committee on by-laws reported that, after careful consideration, there was no need for any change or alteration in the by-laws.

The report of the committee on temperance was then received and ordered printed in full in the minutes, and the same is herewith given:

TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee on Temperance beg to report that they are convinced that but few are informed and really are acquainted with the enormity of the Liquor and Tobacco business. Last year the drink bill of the United States was \$1,207,711,258; this would have paid the nation's public debt with \$100,000,000 left over. We spent \$400,000,000 more for liquor last year (1900) than the entire corn crop was worth to the farmers of America. We spent for liquor nearly four times more than the cotton crop was worth, nearly four times the value of the wheat crop, nearly five times as much as the Standard Oil Company received for all its oil, more than six times as much as the sum spent in maintaining our public schools, and was forty-nine times as great as the income of all the telegraph lines in the country. While we boast of \$6,000,000 given to missions, we pay \$600,000,000 for tobacco; hence you see that the poorest of American citizenship pours into the coffers of the Devil for the two articles of liquor and tobacco the enormous sum of \$1,807,711,258, beside from among our boys we are furnishing 100,000 to take the place of so many dead drunkards, that they too may be blighted and in their turn be killed and damned in hell. Also we must furnish 200,000 saloonist annually to operate the mills of hell. Also largely through this infernal business forty-five thousand of the blushing American daughters are entrapped, snared, and sold into houses of shame. In the brothel, hard by the church edifice, we hear howls of the poor drunken debauchee making midnight hideous, while professed devotees of the cross sleep on downey beds underneath which hell is brewing linquid damnation.

In the scarlet districts of our cities, we see from upper windows sad, plaintive faces of robbed and blighted womanhood. Our boys are enticed away from home; our girls are spirited away; mothers are in despair; wives weep in loneliness, as they burn the midnight oil, and with pale faces pressed against the window, looking for the return of the man who promised to

love, keep, and protect, when he only returns to abuse.

Beloved, we may not be able to reform a nation, we may not be able to save a world, but, let us in the name of the God of nations keep under the blood of Jesus "that cleanseth from all sin," and the battle for the right, for although wrong may rule the land and waiting justice may sleep now, yet the time will be when the evil with the workers of iniquity will be cast out, and the righteous shall inherit the earth; and when the battles over, we shall wear a crown.

J. C. Hearn,

W. J. Alexander,

R. M. Guy,

E. O. Hearn, chairman,

Committee.

By motion, Conference adjourned till 2 p. m. to give the committee on boundaries and stationing time to report.

Afternoon Session.

NOVEMBER 4th, 1901.

Conference met at 2 p. m., Rev, C. H. Ellis conducting the exercises. J. W. Neal asked for location, which was granted. The roll of preachers was called, and the effective list then made out. By motion, certificate of Elder's orders was granted to R. M. Guy. A resolution was here offered by A. W. Stewart, J. F. Waltman, and C. H. Ellis, authorizing the President to sell the church property at Montgomery, La., provided he can secure a good price; otherwise he is authorized to rent or lease as seems best in his judgment. In the event of sale, he is empowered to apply the proceeds toward the erection of a suitable house of worship at Winnfield, La., to be the property of the M. P. Church. Adopted.

The committee on books and periodicals reported and recommended the Methodist Protestant paper published at Baltimore, Md., and the Methodist Recorder, published at Pittsburgh, Pa., and such other of the Church periodicals as emphasize the vital doctrines of true Methodism. The committee also recommended that the preachers endeavor to put the discipline and standard hymn book into all our Protestant families in the

State. The Methodist Protestant paper published in Baltimore, Md., was adopted as the Conference organ, though the Methodist Recorder was also recommended.

The committee on unfinished business reported no unfinished business.

The report of the committee on missions was read and adopted, and the same is herewith printed in full:

MISSIONS.

We, your Committee on Missions, beg to say as the future for the Methodist Protestant church is very bright, and from the reports is shown that the amount received for this purpose is quite meager, recommend that this Conference establish a Home Mission board, and that the money collected for home missions be placed in their hands. We further urge that each preacher emphasize the importance of this work, and that this committee set off new mission fields and supply them with preachers, and that the Home Mission board place amounts collected to their support. We further recommend that special attention be given to the territory south and east of Alexandria, as our interest is much neglected, and the prospects are bright in that field.

Respectfully submitted,

J. E. Gaar,

L. Hoffpauer,

A. H. Lenno,

M. N. Griggs,

C. H. Ates,

Committee.

The Statistical Secretary, J. E. Gaar, herewith made the subjoined report:

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE LOUISIANA ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Number of Members, | 2,115 |
| Number of Probationers, | 4 |

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Number of Ministers, | 13 |
| Number of Preachers, | 17 |
| Number of Accessions, | 416 |
| Number of Withdrawals, | 52 |
| Number of Deaths, | 15 |
| Net Increase, | 349 |
| Number of Churches, | 28 |
| Number of Parsonages, | 2 |
| Number of Sabbath Schools, | 14 |
| Number of Teachers, | 47 |
| Number of Scholars, | 747 |
| Number of Volumes in Library, | |
| Value of Church Property, | \$10,292.50 |
| Amount received from Sabbath Schools, | \$226.07 |
| Amount of Salary received by Pastors, | \$2,521.36 |
| Home Missionary Collection, | \$407.80 |
| Foreign Missionary Collection, | \$27.80 |
| Contribution to American Bible Society, | |
| Contribution to Education, | \$74.00 |
| Church Periodicals, | \$7.00 |
| Amount received by President, | \$350 |

The Conference here adjourned until such time as the committee on boundaries and stationing could report.

The Conference re-assembled at 4:45 p. m., and on motion the President appointed the District Standing Committee as follows:—J. M. Beard, W. W. Lantrip, W. M. D. Gaar, elders; A. T. Nelson, G. B. Haynes, W. Head, laymen.

The President appointed the following Committee on Appeals:—T. Durbin, T. H. Call, A. T. Nelson.

The Conference then selected Homer as the place for holding the next Conference, and appointed Friday, at 10 a. m., before the first Sunday in November, 1902, as the time of meeting. Rev. W. W. Lantrip was then chosen to preach the opening sermon on that occasion.

The committee on examination for Elder's orders recommended J. E. Gaar for Elder's orders. Adopted. On motion, the President was empowered, in the interim of Conference, to ordain J. R. Gaar as an Elder, as soon as his theological courses were completed.

Conference then adjourned till 7:30 p. m. for service, and re-assembled at 9 p. m. The President appointed the permanent Committee on Education to report at the next annual Conference in Homer, La., as follows:—J. M. Beard, chairmann, J. E. Gaar, C. H. Ellis, A. T. Nelson, A. W. Stewart.

The following committee was appointed on Home Missions:—W. M. D. Gaar, W. W. Lantrip, A. T. Nelson, A. W. Stewart, J. F. Waltman, T. Durbin, W. J. Alexander.

The Conference, by a standing vote, thanked the good people of Arcadia for their great kindness and consideration in providing so beautifully for the entertainment of all the delegates, and expressed their thanks to the M. E. C. S. for the courtesy.

On motion, the President was authorized to accept A. C. Burt's recommendation, and issue his credentials.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES AND STATIONING.

The Committee on Boundaries and Stationing reported the following Circuits, Missions, etc., with the appointments for the new Conference year:

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ouachita City Circuit, | J. C. Hearn |
| Antioch Circuit, | J. F. Hearn |
| Cadwell Circuit, | W. P. Fowler |
| Wesley Circuit, | W. W. Lantrip |
| Spring Lake Circuit, | J. F. Waltman |
| Strickland Circuit, | J. E. Gaar, T. C. Leckie |
| Pollock Circuit, | L. Hoffpauer |
| Hick's Circuit, | G. J. L. Brown |
| Rice Circuit, | Unsupplied |
| Center Point Charge, | E. O. Hearn |
| Monroe and Ruston, | C. H. Ellis |
| Kelly Circuit, (New) | A. J. Valery |
| Winnfield Circuit, (New) | J. M. Griggs |
| Bossier Circuit, (New) | Unsupplied |
| Black Lake Mission, | Unsupplied |
| Bastrop and Gilbert Mission, (New) | W. M. Platt |
| Beech Creek Mission, | Unsupplied |

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Saline Mission, | Unsupplied |
| French Fork Mission, (New) | W. J. Atwood |
| Marksville Mission, (New) | Jno. T. Smith |
| New Orleans Charge, | J. M. Beard |

Rev. R. M. Guy was appointed Evangelist at large. Brother and Sister Morris were continued as Conference Evangelists. Mrs. Mary Bartlett was appointed Conference Missionary. The following names were left in the hands of the President:— P. A. Smart, J. T. Smith, I. A. Patton, D. T. Ponder, W. T. Waller, J. R. Gaar, W. M. D. Gaar, Jerry Fordham, W. W. Dunn, F. M. Yarborough, J. F. Carroll, A. Hallmark.

RESOLVED, That this Conference request the Home Mission Board to appropriate as much as one thousand dollars for the work in New Orleans, and that the assessment of our Conference for \$100 for Home Missions be a part of this sum. Adopted. Conference then adjourned till Friday at 10 a. m., preceeding the first Sunday in November, 1902.

CONFERENCE ROLL.

Ministers and Preachers.

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| W. J. Atwood, | |
| J. M. Beard, | 1052 St Charles ave New Orleans |
| G. J. L. Brown, | Nugent, La |
| Mrs. Mary Bartlett, | Arcadia, La |
| J. F. Carroll, | Kelly, La |
| W. W. Dunn, | Pollock, La |
| C. H. Ellis, | Monroe, La |
| Jerry Fordham, | Hood's Mill, La |
| W. F. Fordham, | Dalley, La |
| W. P. Fowler, | Luna, La |
| W. M. D. Gaar, | Hudson, La |
| J. E. Gaar, | " " |
| J. R. Gaar, | " " |
| I. M. Griggs, | |
| R. M. Guy, | Greenville, Tex |
| L. Hoffpauer, | Pollock, La |

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| E. O. Hearn, | |
| J. C. Hearn, | |
| J. F. Hearn, | |
| A. Hallmark, | |
| T. C. Leckie, | |
| W. W. Lantrip, | |
| J. R. Morris, | Pollock, La |
| Bessie Copeland Morris, | " " |
| J. P. Patton, | Wheeling, La |
| I. A. Patton, | Mt. Zion, La |
| D. T. Ponder, | Dalley, La |
| W. M. Platt, | Ouachita City, La |
| I. R. Strickland, | Mt. Zion, La |
| P. A. Smart, | |
| Jno. T. Smith, | |
| J. T. Smith, | |
| A. J. Valery, | |
| J. F. Waltman, | Arcadia, La |
| W. T. Waller, | |
| F. M. Yarborough, | Grayson, La |

Lay Delegates.

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| T. F. Pardue, | Ouachita City |
| T. F. Lolley, | Antioch Circuit |
| A. A. Luneau, | Locust Grove Church |
| C. N. Ates, | Strickland Circuit |
| M. L. Calk, | Pollock Charge |
| T. H. Call, | " " |
| A. W. Stewart, | Rochelle Church |
| H. N. Harrison, | New Orleans, La |
| W. H. Hearn, | Center Point |
| W. R. Jones, | " " |
| T. Durbin, | Wesley Circuit |
| T. C. Kidd, | " " |
| J. F. Strickland, | Hick's Circuit |
| Lige White, | Cross Roads Church |
| W. J. Alexander, | Jonesboro " |
| W. G. Griggs, | Rice Circuit |
| R. E. Watson, | " " |

| | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| L. H. Swayse | Monroe Station |
| A. T. Nelson, | Spring Lake Circuit |
| J. O. Whitten, | Caldwell Station |
| A. C. Burt, | Ruston, La. |

BY-LAWS.

Sec. 1. No delegate shall be entitled to a seat in the Annual Conference without proper credentials, or other satisfactory evidence of his election; and in the case of alternate, the certificates shall so express it.

Sec. 2. Delegates to the Annual Conference shall be elected by the members in good standing and in full membership, over the age of eighteen years. In circuits, stations and missions, it shall be the duty of the pastor to designate the time and place, and give due notice of the election. The election shall be held under the direction of the stewards; and they shall act as judges of the election, and cause the same to be returned to the Fourth Quarterly Conference; there to be compiled and consolidated. The person or persons receiving a plurality vote shall be declared duly elected delegate or delegates, and next highest shall be duly elected alternate or alternates, and receive certificates accordingly, provided that in a case of a tie, the members of the Quarterly Conference, by a majority vote, shall decide.

Sec. 3. No person shall be elected to orders, except he be a man of exceptional moral character, genuine piety, respectable attainments, and sound in the belief of the fundamental doctrines of Christianity; and faithful in the discharge of Gospel duties.

Sec. 4. No minister in good health shall be left without ministerial work for more than one year; at the end of which time he shall resume his itinerant labors, or be transferred to the unstationed list, and if so transferred shall receive a certificate of his standing. This rule shall apply to any minister so transferred, provided, he, at his own request, may locate.

Sec. 5. No minister or preacher appointed to a circuit,

station, or mission, shall cease from the labors assigned him by the stationing authority until his term of service shall have expired, except by consent of the president, for reasons, by him deemed sufficient.

Sec. 6. Each pastor shall be required to make a report of his labors in disciplinary form, and shall read the same in open Conference before his official character shall pass. Should any pastor fail to discharge his duties herein set forth, and made obligatory upon him by the discipline, such failure shall be sufficient cause for a reprimand by the Conference for first offense, and location by a vote of the Conference for the second offense.

Sec. 7. The board of stewards shall, immediately after the adjournment of Conference meet, and in committee with the pastor, make the assessment as required by the discipline and by-laws, proportion and collect the same, pay over to the persons entitled to receive, taking receipts for same.

Sec. 8. On all subjects involving the financial interest of the church, no one shall be entitled to vote except those who are 18 years of age, and are contributing members in full membership.

Sec. 9. Any member 21 years of age, and in good standing and full membership for one year is eligible to any office in the church, and as a delegate to the Annual Conference, provided, that where a church, circuit, station or mission has no member of said age they may place in office, in the church, or elect as delegate to the Annual Conference such as are not 21 years of age and such as have not been members one year.

Sec. 10. Due notice shall be given previous to any action to be taken that involves the financial interest of the church.

Sec. 11. The term of office of Conference steward shall be one year.

Sec. 12. The Conference steward shall be required to receive and hold all money collected for the various benevolent purposes from the different charges, also Conference collections.

Sec. 13. It shall be the duty of the Conference steward to settle all incidental expenses of the Conference out of the Con-

ference collections during its session, and present the remainder to the Conference for disbursement.

Sec. 14. He shall pay over to the different boards, or to the persons authorized to receive the same, all money received for the various benevolent purposes, taking receipts, and of which, and all other business in his hands shall make a proper exhibit to the Conference during the session at which he was appointed, also at the expiration of his term of office.

Sec. 15. Each pastor shall call the attention of each class under his charge quarterly to the amount of its assessment for the current year made by the stewards. In failure of which, class-stewards will not be held responsible for the pastor's part of said assessment.

Sec. 16. There shall be appointed at each session of the Annual Conference a minister or preacher to preach an opening sermon at the sitting of the next annual session.

Sec. 17. The proceedings of Conference shall be recorded by the secretary in a fair hand, for which he shall receive a reasonable compensation, and shall be signed by the president and secretary.

Sec. 18. The secretary shall take charge of all the books, journals, records and proceedings of the Conference, and transmit the same to the Conference at its next session.

Sec. 19. The president shall be the stationing authority of this Conference, calling to his aid, as counsel, one layman from each work represented.

Sec. 20. In stationing the ministers and preachers there shall not be given to any one an appointment, who, in the opinion of the majority of the members, is incompetent to the duties thereof, or who, they believe will neglect the appointments, and such ministers and preachers may be transferred by Conference to the unstationed list, provided, however, that no minister or preacher, who, in the judgement of the Conference is entitled to a superannuated relationship shall be so transferred.

Sec. 21. It shall be the duty of the president to see that deeds are taken to all the church property belonging to the Methodist Protestant church in the Louisiana district.

Sec. 22. These by-laws can only be changed, altered or amended by giving two days' notice in open Conference of such change, alteration or amendment, and it will require a two-thirds vote of the members belonging to that session of Conference.